Lane weaves FBI, CIA into 60s assassination plots

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By JULIAN LOEWE
Staff Writer

Mark Lane, the current attorney for James Earl Ray, told 200 people at Occidental College Wednesday night that the CIA and FBI respectively are "the prime suspects" in the assassinations of President Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King."

Citing evidence Lane claimed he had recently obtained under the Freedom of Information Act he said, "The Warren Commission was established to prevent the American people from knowing who killed President Kennedy."

Lane told the audience that one of the documents he had obtained showed that the CIA had told the Warren Commission that Lee Harvey Oswald was in Mexico City talking to the Soviet head of assassinations in the Western Hemisphere one month before President Kennedy was killed.

Oswald however was never in Mexico City, Lane contended, adding that the idea of Kennedy's accused assassin talking to the Soviet agent was a device used to "terrorize the Warren Commission."

Lane said that commission members, using the CIA's document, could have thought that such information "might have caused World War III."

The CIA said its proof of Oswald's presence in Mexico City included photographs and tape recordings of conversation in the Russian embassy, Lane told the audience.

However Lane continued, a five-page report from the FBI said that seven agents who talked to Oswald after his arrest said the voice on the tapes was not the accused assassin's.

Lane, author of "Rush To Judgment," said the CIA testified it had destroyed the Mexico City tapes and photographs one week after they had been made in early october 1963 because "They were of no significance."

However, Lane charged the FBI was able to compare Oswald's voice to the voice on the tapes on Nov. 23, 1963, the day after the Kennedy assassination.

Continuing to paint a picture of massive conspiracy at the highest levels of government, Lane charged that the Oct. 1 "evidence" about Oswald in Mexico could well have been a plan to leave a trail of clues to implicate Oswald in the assassination, which occurred one month later.

"The prime suspects in the murder of President Kennedy are the members of the CIA at that time," Lane charged.

A former New York State

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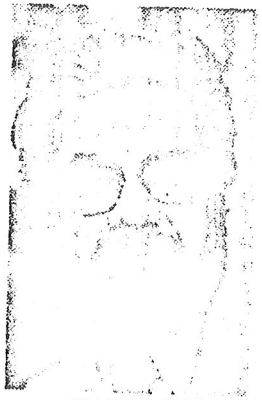
legislator, Lane was unsuccessful in two years of attempts to get Congress to reopen the investigation of President Kennedy's death. But, since that time, he said he feels his efforts have led directly to the establishment of the House Select Committee on Assassination, before which he has testified.

Moving on to the King assassination, Lane made what he termed damaging challenges to the proofs of Ray's guilt.

After he was captured by Scotland Yard in London, Ray spent eight months in a windowless, Memphis, Tenn. jail cell lit 24 hours a day by television lights, his movements monitored by audio-visual equipment and two FBI agents who were with him at all times, Lane said.

Ray finally agreed to plead guilty, Lane said, when an FBI agent tol him that if he didn't his father, who had escaped from an Iowa prison 50 years earlier and was presently living in Texas, would be picked up and returned to the Iowa prison where he would remain until he died. This, Lane said, was the final straw in making Ray plead guilty.

Lane, who will be defending Ray when he is tried for his recent escape attempt at the Brushy Mountain State Prison, outlined a series of events involving a mysterious "Raul" leading to Dr. King's assassination including what Lane charged was a covertly directed effort by he FBI to have the slain civil rights leader stay at the Lorraine Motel — where he met his death.



MARK LANE
. . . new evidence

Probe on assassination under way

WASHINGTON (AP) -- Loran Hall, a former soldier for Fidel Castro who later turned against the Cuban leader, began secret testimony Wednesday before a House subcommittee on assassinations regarding the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

The panel went into closed session after Chairman Richardson Preyer D-N.C., said Hall's testimony "may tend to degrade, defame or incriminate" other people without corroboration.

Hall has said in published and broadcast interviews that Dallas businessmen offered him $50,000 to kill Kennedy several months before the President was assassinated in the Texas city Nov. 22, 1963.

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